



Date: January 28, 2015

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Mark D. Ahrendsen, Director of Transportation
Subject: Interlocal Agreement with NCDOT and the City of Raleigh for the Regional Freight Plan

Executive Summary

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO), the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) are jointly developing a Regional Freight Plan. The purpose of the freight plan is threefold: to conduct a comprehensive regional study of freight, goods movement, and services mobility needs; to develop a framework to proactively address freight and goods movement mobility needs and challenges in the region; and to examine all modes of a freight transportation system with emphasis on trucks, rail and air cargo and to develop freight recommendations for the 2045 joint Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The work associated with the development of the Regional Freight Plan will be undertaken through consulting services. Proposals to provide the Regional Freight Plan development services were solicited by the City. Staff reviewed the proposals to determine the firms' respective strengths and qualifications and, as a result, selected Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB). The total budget for the project is \$400,000.00. NCDOT is providing funding for up to 50% of the project costs, CAMPO will provide funding for up to 30% of total cost and the City will provide funding for 20% of the project budget. The City's share of the \$400,000.00 project is \$80,000.00. The \$80,000.00 will be funded with 80% federal funds and 20% local matching City funds. The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) designated federal funding to use toward the development of the Regional Freight Plan. The proposed Interlocal Agreement will allow for the City to receive funds from CAMPO and NCDOT.

Recommendation

The Department of Transportation recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute the Interlocal agreement between NCDOT, the City of Raleigh and the City of Durham for the development of the Regional Freight Plan.

Background

The DCHC MPO, CAMPO and the State of North Carolina must carry out a continuing, comprehensive and cooperative process of transportation planning to maintain eligibility for federal transportation funding. As part of this process, the City of Durham, in its capacity as Lead Planning Agency for the DCHC MPO, has participated actively in the planning update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

The development the Regional freight Plan is a joint effort by DCHC MPO, CAMPO and NCDOT. The total budget for the project is \$400,000.00. The two MPOs (CAMPO and DCHC MPO) and NCDOT have agreed to split the cost as follows:

• DCHC MPO	20%	\$ 80,000.00
• CAMPO	30%	\$120,000.00
• NCDOT	50%	\$200,000.00

Authorizing the execution of the Interlocal Agreement will allow the City to 1) leverage State/federal funding for the project and 2) receive reimbursement from the City of Raleigh and NCDOT. This project has been approved by the MPO Board and is included in the FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Issues and Analysis

The development of the Regional Freight Plan will meet the federal metropolitan transportation planning requirement that calls for the DCHCMPO to address freight factors in its planning process and long range transportation plan .The purpose of the proposed plan is to establish a foundation for understanding freight-based mobility needs. Freight initiatives from the plan help the MPO to improve transportation efficiency and safety, reduce congestion, enhance mobility and better manage traffic. In order to be reimbursed by the City of Raleigh and NCDOT, the City must execute an Interlocal agreement with these agencies consistent with federal and State policies.

The City can accept or reject the proposed Interlocal agreement by adopting or not adopting the attached agreement. The work associated with the development of the Regional Freight Plan will be undertaken through consulting services with funds to be provided by the City of Durham, City of Raleigh and NCDOT. If approved, the study is scheduled to begin in March 2015.

Alternatives

- Authorize the City Manager to execute attached Interlocal agreement with the City of Raleigh and NCDOT. Funds will be available to carry out the development of the Regional Freight Plan as approved by the MPO Board. The City will be reimbursed for 80% of the project costs or \$320,000.00. The City will also receive \$64,000.00 of federal (STP-DA) funds.
- If the City Council does not authorize the City Manager to execute the Interlocal agreement, the City will not be reimbursed by Raleigh and NCDOT. Consequently, the City will have to increase its contribution in order for the project to move forward. If the City does not provide funding for the project, the DCHC MPO will not benefit from further development of the Regional Freight Plan or the proposed Regional Freight Plan development will not be undertaken.

Financial Impact

The total budget for the Regional Freight Plan is \$400,000.00 of which NCDOT is contributing 50%, the City of Raleigh is contributing 30% and the City of Durham is contributing 20% or \$80,000.00. Eighty percent (80%) of the City's funding has been allocated by the DCHC MPO from federal STP-DA funds, which the City of Durham may disburse in its capacity as Lead Planning Agency for the MPO. The remaining twenty

percent – 20% (\$16,000.00) of the funding is available within the Department of Transportation's operating budget.

SDBE Summary

SDBE Requirements are not applicable to this agreement.

Attachments

1. Interlocal Agreement between the City of Durham, the City of Raleigh and NCDOT.